

Hawaiian Gazette

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TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 1888.

EDITORIAL

Legislation for a postal telegraph system has been introduced in Congress. Senator Cullom has introduced a bill to establish the "United States Postal Telegraph" as a part of the postal system of that nation. For the purpose of inaugurating the system, the bill provides that the following trunk lines shall first be constructed: One from Washington, D. C. to Portland, Me., via Baltimore, Wilmington, Philadelphia, Camden, Trenton, Newark, Jersey City, New York, Brooklyn, New Haven, Hartford, Providence and Boston; one from Washington to Minneapolis; one from New York to Cleveland; one from Pittsburgh to Toledo; one from Toledo to Detroit; one from Washington to Galveston; one from Chicago to New Orleans; one from Chicago to St. Louis; and one from Chicago to San Francisco. A rate of ten cents for each twenty words, and five cents for each additional ten words, is fixed for distances under 500 miles, and an additional rate of five cents for each 250 miles over 500. A night rate of thirty-five cents and a day rate of seventy-five cents is fixed for each 100 words transmitted for newspapers, except that where the same dispatch is dropped off at more than one office, the rate shall be twenty-five and fifty cents respectively. The office of Director General of Telegraphs is created as a part of the Post-office Department. There is much to be said on both sides of the question in the abstract, whether it is right and expedient for the Government to take the telegraph business out of private hands. The successful example of Great Britain in this matter must have great influence upon American public opinion. Certainly the people of the United States have strong reasons for desiring national intervention to save them from telegraph monopoly. The country and the business are vast enough to afford full scope for competition in telegraphy with all its advantages. Yet every effort at competition, however seemingly strong and calculated to endure, has sooner or later been broken down and absorbed by the powerful corporation of the Western Union. This has now proved the inevitable fate of rivals to that company in so many instances, that the public has come to suspect each fresh enterprise of the kind as only a speculative scheme to realize upon the rapacity of the huge monopoly, whose strength was acquired before the business became so immense as to very strongly invite determined competition. It really seems as if a national telegraph system is the only relief.

NOTES AND COMMENTS

The Standard Oil Company has just gobbled up the Toledo Oil Company for \$100,000.

As Industrial Education Commission has been organized in Pennsylvania. The grand movement is making its way everywhere.

Two lady school teachers in New Jersey invested \$50 in poultry. The first year their profits were \$1,000, the second they were \$3,000. Go thou and do likewise.—*Alta California*.

Lend us the \$50.

"Poor Trust is dead," is often seen placarded in tradesmen's shops. The American papers are, however, chasing a new dog of the same name. "A pickle trust has been organized," says the *Alta California*. "Let us beat it by refusing to eat pickles. Let the material for pickles be left to encumber the ground first."

It is hard to realize the full extent of the commercial kinship of the world, since distant parts have been brought into close sympathy by steam and electricity. A remarkable instance of the sensitiveness of trade in one country to events happening in foreign lands is found in the fact of a large pig iron firm in Scotland falling under the stress of a panic caused by President Cleveland's message to the American Congress.

A NUMBER of the most eminent physicians and medical professors in Germany have united in an attack on "apothecaries' Latin," and a pharmaceutical lexicon is being prepared for the use of doctors and chemists, so as to assist them in prescribing and making up prescriptions in the language understood by the people. The classes from which this movement has originated would indicate that there is no technical necessity for the mystery thrown round the giving of medicine to people.

The *Alto* suggests that it would not be a bad idea for California to follow the example of New York, that, in order to prevent the extinction of deer, has provided a breeding park for the animals. Deer have been introduced successfully, so far as themselves are concerned, on the island of Molokai in this group. They have, however, proved very destructive to forest growth, killing young trees by gnawing the bark off. In the same way jackasses have devastated large tracts of rising forest on the island of Hawaii.

A PATENT for the diffusion process in sugar manufacture is likely to be a subject of litigation in the United States. Professor Swenson obtained the patent, but against the protest of

the Commissioner of Agriculture, who alleges the professor discovered the process while in Government employ, and while making experiments with the people's money for the benefit of the people. The Commissioner has suggested to the Attorney-General that suit be instituted to perpetually enjoin Professor Swenson from making use of his patent.

THE town of Stanstead, Canada, has produced a heroine in the person of Mrs. Dr. Canfield. About 1 o'clock in the morning of December 19th last a bomb, to which a lighted fuse was attached, was thrown through a window in the doctor's residence. Mrs. Canfield sprang out of bed and succeeded in detaching the fuse. The bomb contained enough giant blasting powder to wholly demolish the house and kill all the tenants. The dastardly attempt at murderous destruction is explained by the statement that Dr. Canfield's father, who is a bailiff, had been threatened with violence for serving processes under the local option liquor law.

A PHILADELPHIA paper, commenting upon the attacks made upon new laws in that latitude on constitutional grounds, says: "Of course it is all right to test the constitutionality of newly enacted laws, and eminently desirable that they should be nullified if found to be in conflict with the fundamental charter, but somehow or other it always seems to be the law which the people are interested in upholding that stands in the greatest danger of being declared unconstitutional. How often does one hear of a law which from some money-making corporation derives a profitable business being thus set aside? There is something more than natural in this, if philosophy could find it out."

As American paper, commenting on three recent judicial decisions bearing out States' rights very emphatically, says that the war did not settle that question, but only proved the superior endurance of one party in the struggle. Senator Chandler has introduced a bill in Congress which if passed will likely still further test the rights of States. It is to regulate the holding of Congressional elections in South Carolina, Florida, Mississippi and Louisiana. To a reporter the Senator said that it was his desire to secure, if possible, a national election law in those States where there is a manifest and avowed suppression of Republican suffrage, and he added that the bill was undoubtedly constitutional.

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